



CHICAGO COIN CLUB *Chatter*

Meets the Second Wednesday, 8 P. M., at the Pick Congress Hotel

VOL. 23 NO. 2

591st MEETING

FEBRUARY 14, 1968

James L. Grebinger, President

James Babka, Vice President

Marty Greene, 2nd Vice President

Mrs. Marjorie Baker, Secretary-Treasurer

Glenn Smedley, CHATTER Editor, 1127 Washington Blvd., Oak Park, Ill. 60302

Governors: A. R. Birkholz, A. F. Hausske, Philip More, J. Thomas Nolan

JANUARY MEETING REPORT

The 590th meeting of Chicago Coin Club was held January 10 at Harding's Restaurant on Wabash Avenue where about 50 members and guests enjoyed good fellowship and a delicious roast beef dinner. All present thanked member Tom Shugrue, manager of Harding's Men's Grill, for personally supervising the preparation and serving of the meal.

Regular business was suspended but it can be reported that two applications for membership had been received: William Langan of Chicago and Robert A. Perrin, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Jamestown College, North Dak. There were no exhibits, but those present at the December meeting take this means of again thanking member Dick Yeoman for showing slides and speaking on outstanding historical coins in his collection. Exhibitors at the December meeting were Howard Eisenberg, Jim Grebinger, Louis Nagy, George Petr and Glenn Smedley.

Member Matt Rothert, immediate Past President of A.N.A., and his charming Janet were special guests at the January meeting and Matt graciously installed the reelected officers, who are President J. L. Grebinger, First Vice President James Babka, Second Vice President Marty Greene, Governors A. R. Birkholz, A. F. Hausske, Philip More and J. Thomas Nolan, and re-appointed Secretary-Treasurer Marjorie Baker.

Program Chairman Gerda Birkholz presented special plaques in appreciation for fine programs presented during 1967 by the following: Matt Rothert (January), William Pettit (March and August), Harry X. Boosel (June), A. R. Birkholz (July), George Petr (September), Howard Eisenberg (October), Sheldon Banoff (November) and R. S. Yeoman (December).

Past President Phil More announced that William Pettit was the winner of the 1967 Literary Award medal for his excellent paper on the first struck pieces of the 1892 and 1893 Columbian half dollars. Incidentally, Pettit discovered that both of these coins are in museum collections in Chicago, and he secured them for exhibit at the P.N.G. show in the Palmer House last October. In addition to his literary award, Pettit won the award for the most points earned for the Club during National Coin Week.

Glenn Smedley presented the Club's lovely silver Medal of Merit for 1967 to Thomas F. Shugrue, member R-244 and A.N.A. member R-5062. A faithful member since 1935, Tom has performed many services for the Club, including his capable auctioneering and handling numerous banquets and dinner meetings.

President Grebinger read 61 names from the roster of persons who have been members of the Club for 20 years or more. Ernest Jonas and Nellie Josephson joined in 1919, the year that the Chicago Coin Club was organized. Ten of the 61 members were present at the dinner, the oldest in years of membership being I. T. Kopicki, No. 124. Quite a few of these members are now non-resident living in various parts of the country.

After the meeting, our fellow member Jimmie Thompson confused and amazed us with his wonderful card tricks. Jimmie is a real pro as an entertainer and is rated one of the best anywhere with a deck of cards.

George Petr will explain the Midwest Bank Card system at the February 14 meeting. George works at the First National Bank of Chicago and should know. All of us should know, so come and hear him.

NEW EDITOR

After serving as editor of The Chatter for many years, Herbert J. Shaner has found it necessary to resign the position. That he has done a good job and that his shoes will be hard to fill are attested by the fact that no one has been found to take over the editorship.

President Grebinger has prevailed upon me, Glenn Smedley, to take over temporarily so please send any news relating to the Club or its members to me at 1127 Washington Blvd., Oak Park, Ill. 60302, until further notice.

NSM CHANGES HANDS

Although probably not news to anyone, we report for the record that members Lee and Cliff Hewitt have sold The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine to the Sidney (Ohio) Printing and Publishing Co., the transfer to take place in April. We are proud that Lee and Cliff have long been among the numismatic notables in the Chicago Coin Club and we join their many friends in wishing them many happy years of freedom from publication "deadlines". Lee reported privately that one of his "friends" wrote from a distance that "I'm glad you have finally gone broke and we won't have to put up with your arrogance anymore." Well, you can't please them all !

OBITUARY

Word has been received that Past President Robert L. McBrien passed away suddenly on January 23 in Florida. McBrien was Chicago Coin Club member 253 and its 7th president, 1939-40. He was A.N.A. member 5054. Retiring to Florida with his wife, Geraldine (CCC 294), some years ago, he was presently the mayor of Palm Beach Shores, Riviera Beach, Florida, his term expiring in April this year. "Mac" was an avid collector of early U. S. coins, specializing in pioneer gold.

Our friend, Abner Kreisberg, is holding an unusual mail bid sale on March 4. Not a single coin, medal, token or piece of paper money is offered - but there are 805 lots of numismatic literature. Estimated values range from \$1 to \$200.

If you see Harold Klein wearing a "Think First" button, don't get the idea that he is promoting mental exercises. He just wants everyone to think of the First National Bank of Hinsdale, which, incidentally, has ground cleared for constructing a new bank building this year. Watch for the grand opening - undoubtedly there will be free samples for all visitors.

Belated news. It has just been learned that member John S. Schwartz suffered a severe stroke last July and was hospitalized for several months. John is recovering slowly and says he would be most pleased to see any of his friends who can call at his home, and to receive cards and letters from others. His address is 12100 S. Yale Ave., Chicago 60628. Please phone before going to visit him.

John has been member 401 of the Club for about 25 years and, with his wife, attended coin shows and conventions frequently, John being A.N.A. member 9785 which makes him a quarter-century member of that organization also this year.

Not being a magazine subscription salesman, your editor is merely passing on information in stating that he is most delighted with his recent subscription to COINS AND MEDALS, a monthly magazine published in London. As would be expected, it deals mostly with numismatics of England and related countries, but does contain general numismatic items as well. It consists of about 56 pages per issue, of which roughly half are advertisements; is of high quality paper and printing with excellent illustrations; overall size 7 3/8 x 9 3/4; surface mail rates \$4.44 for 12 issues or \$2.22 for 6. Delivered here 3 to 4 weeks after publication date of the 8th of each month.

Dennis Forgue, P. O. Box 750, Hillside, Ill., 60162, is nearing the end of a long search for obsolete bank notes of Illinois for publication by the Society of Paper Money Collectors. This book will be more than a mere listing of Illinois notes, for each note will be described and all known information about it will be included. Those who have Illinois notes, including scrip issued by towns, cities, merchants, etc., should send descriptions to Dennis promptly. Most Illinois notes are very scarce and one you have may be unknown to others, so help make this book as complete as possible by making yours known to Dennis.



CHICAGO COIN CLUB *Chatter*

Meets the Second Wednesday, 8 P. M., at the Pick Congress Hotel

Vol. 20 No. 4

591st Meeting

April 10, 1968

James L. Grebinger, President

James Babka, Vice President

Marty Greene, 2nd Vice President

Mrs. Marjorie Baker, Secretary-Treasurer

Glenn Smedley, CHATTER Editor, 1127 Washington Blvd., Oak Park, Ill. 60302

Governors: A. R. Birkholz, A. F. Hausske, Philip More, J. Thomas Nolan

SPECIAL NOTICE

Members' attention is called to the correction, with this issue, of the volume number of the CHATTER, and the Club's meeting number. In checking back into recent history it was discovered that slips were made in the volume numbers in June 1956 and in Feb. 1963. Meeting numbers were reported in error in March 1964, in June, August and October 1965. President Grebinger says a detailed account would be involved but has convinced your editor that this IS Vol. 20, No. 4 of the CHATTER, and the April meeting IS the Club's 591st. Let's keep these statistics correct during the next 50 years!

MARCH MEETING NOTES

The passing of our last charter member, Ernest Jonas, which was reported in the March CHATTER, was observed by a minute of silence.

After a discussion of the problem, brought up by Harry Boosel, he agreed to work out and report on a system whereby members will be notified promptly of a member's death so that all may pay their respects to the deceased.

President Grebinger spoke about our tax-exempt status as approved by IRS, and noted that application had been made for refund of the \$990.99 we were required to pay recently.

The die which Leonard Stark had made and used to make elongated cents commemorating our 1961 show was donated to the Club. Thanks, Leonard, it will be kept with other memorabilia of the Club's past.

Upon motion made by J. Thomas Nolan, the financial report for 1967 (included with last month's CHATTER) was formally approved, and Auditor Jules Marshfield was thanked for preparing it.

Exhibits (nice but not enough) were made by Phil More, Louis Nagy, J. Thomas Nolan, Geo. Petr and Glenn Smedley.

Apropos of nothing in particular, Mimi Grebinger read a poetic bit of advice to "A Wife of a Coin Collector." We didn't learn the name of the author but it was well done.

NOW HEAR (READ) THIS!

Lack of space last month precluded reporting that, starting at the February meeting, names are being drawn from a hat containing all members' names for a monthly prize. The catch is that the winner MUST be present. The prize - remittance of next year's club dues for the winner. Losers at the February meeting were John W. Turner, Merrill Gates, Dick Dominelli, Clarence Frase, Noble Olson, Gerald Hickey, Howard Smith and Arvid Anderson. Winner was Howard Eisenberg, whose name will be missing from future drawings. Losers at the March meeting were Sidney Bick, Harry Flower, Milton Gray, James Thompson, Clarence Frase (again), Arthur Ivener, John Schwartz (ill), John Manus, Stephen Bramm, Robert Pizer, Joe Lessner and Dick Peterson. James Budd was the lucky one. Remember, all names go back into the hat except those of winners, so you still have a chance.

Editor Smedley will present a paper (but not on paper money) at the April 10 meeting which will be interesting but short. This will allow time for some good talks on exhibits, etc. ***Remember to watch coming issues of the CHATTER for dates and locations of meetings, as we do not have firm commitments for the usual dates and location of several. The Congress Hotel is doing its best for us, but a shift or two may be unavoidable.

COMING EVENTS

An auction is being planned for the May meeting. Anyone having material should send a description of the items together with the minimum acceptable bids to Charles J. Ryant, Jr. at 554 Clyde Ave., Calumet City, Ill. 60409 before Apr. 23rd. DON'T send the material - bring it with you to the May meeting.

26th annual Central States convention at the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel in Detroit April 19-21. Genial member Phil More will bow out as Prexy, but CCC will still be represented on the board.

Indiana State Numis. Assn. will hold its annual convention in Muncie on May 17-19 and your editor's been appointed an exhibit judge.

OUR 50TH BIRTHDAY

Mint records show only 200 regular 1875 half eagles struck, and the Red Book prices them at \$1500 VF and \$3250 Unc. Tentative plans call for striking one 50th anniversary silver medal for each member who orders it in advance of production, meaning an issue limited to around 200 pieces. They won't be cheap but will cost appreciably less than an 1875 half eagle. Watch your CHATTER for further announcements.

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE COIN CLUBS

(reprinted from THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, Hiram L. Bowers, Editor)

Some of us have lost sight of what constitutes a good active coin club. Many collectors have never known a club other than one that was spawned during the height of the recent craze for buying and selling current coins. When they became members the clubs had reached the ultimate in membership and attendance, and to them the current attendance of only a dozen or two members indicates the decline and fall of the club. What they fail to realize is that when the quick profit went out of coin transactions the bag and roll dealers, as well as the speculators masquerading under the guise of collectors, vanished also.

While most of them were honest people there was nevertheless the fringe element whose only interest was to make a quick buck at the expense of the novice and beginner. If we examine the situation closely we will find that, except for the loss of attendance, membership and revenue to the club, there was no real loss at all in the quality of the meetings or the mission of the club.

No longer is every man a dealer, and those you see at the clubs now are devoted collectors, exhibitors, numismatic students and, most important, those in search of the rare quality of numismatic fellowship which should prevail. Once again peace and quiet reigns at the meetings and the speaker or person giving the program may now be heard without interruption by the wheelers and dealers.

Club membership and attendance always has been linked closely with the amount of profit that an individual could extract, and since the big bubble burst they are at the stage which prevailed before the big scramble of the late fifties and early sixties began. Viewing the overall picture it is felt by many that collecting has reached the bottom and is on its way up again, but it's doubtful that it'll ever again attain the madness that once prevailed.

A few of the weaker organizations have fallen by the wayside while the stronger have continued through the efforts of a dedicated group that has not despaired when the going got a little rough. While it is always nice to have a large attendance and membership, it is not always the mark of success. Some of the finest meetings I have ever attended consisted of only a dozen or so people.

PERSONALS

The Hausskes spent mid-March in the Southwest and report a most pleasant visit with member Del Worthington in Tucson. Del has a coin shop but we gather that it is as much museum as store, and that Del seems to be more of a buyer than a seller.

George Petr won three exhibit awards at the Kankakee Coin Club show. His paper money and Canadian exhibits won first places, and the Best of Show prize also went to George.

A few CCC members are procrastinators! If you are one of them, please send \$5 now to Secretary Marjorie Baker, 158 N. Parkside Ave., Chicago 60644. Don't be a delinquent.

Announcement was made that the Numismatists of Wisconsin annual convention will be held at the Racine Motor Inn (downtown Racine) June 8-9. Bourse, exhibits, educational program and special events. Write to Racine Numis. Society, 2021 West Blvd., Racine, Wis. 53403. N-O-W.

Invited guest Fred Hackett, whose knowledge of American Indians (on their reservations) is authentic, spoke most informatively on the Indian on the so-called Buffalo nickel. Members learned more, I'm sure, about real Indians, and from an elderly gentleman who knew whereof he spoke.



CHICAGO COIN CLUB

Chatter

Meets the Second Wednesday, 8 P. M., at the Pick Congress Hotel

Vol. 20 No. 5

592nd Meeting

May 8, 1968

James L. Grebinger, President

James Babka, Vice President

Marty Greene, 2nd Vice President

Mrs. Marjorie Baker, Secretary-Treasurer

Glenn Smedley, CHATTER Editor, 1127 Washington Blvd., Oak Park, Ill. 60302

Governors: A. R. Birkholz, A. F. Hausske, Philip More, J. Thomas Nolan

APRIL MEETING NOTES

Member Harry Schwimmer, owner of Barney's Market Club, 741 W. Randolph St., presented one of the new Chicago Policemen's Benevolent Association medals to the Club. The 49 mm., silver plated bronze medal commemorates the centennial of the formation of the C.P.B.A, but features the monument erected in 1889 in honor of the policemen who lost their lives in the Haymarket Riot of May 4, 1886. It is said to be the only police monument in the world. Schwimmer, whose famed restaurant is in the Haymarket Square area, is a member of the businessmen's association and was active in the medal project. Medals may be ordered at \$3.25 each postpaid from Chicago Policemen's Benevolent Association Medal, 720 W. O'Brien St., Chicago 60607 or, so we've been told, at the May 8 meeting of C.C.C.

We were pleased to have Dr. James Lore of the U. S. Public Health Service, who recently moved to Chicago, as a guest and prospective new member. Dr. Lore was formerly a member of the Washington (D.C.) Numismatic Society.

Exhibits were presented by Gerda Berkholz, Howard Eisenberg, Harry Flower and George Petr, the latter showing a National Coin Week proclamation which he obtained from Chicago's Mayor Daley. Gerda Birkholz presented A.N.A. Educational Award certificates to Sheldon Banoff, Howard Eisenberg and George Petr for talks they made at recent meetings.

In the monthly attendance drawing, losers were Dr. Emanuel Frazin and Martin Vink. Phil More was the winner and thus will have his 1969 club dues remitted.

Glenn Smedley read a paper on a medal issued in 1962 by the First National City Bank, New

York, in observance of the 150th anniversary of its founding. The 3-inch bronze medal was sculptured in Spain and struck by the Medallic Art Company in New York, and is exceptional in the massiveness of the designs on both sides. Smedley exhibited one of the 38,707 pieces struck, all of which have been issued, and several history books of early U. S. Banks.

RICHARD McP. CABEEN AWARD

Recently Richard Cabeen, a member of long standing, made a generous cash donation to the Club, with no strings attached. President Grebinger has appointed a committee to work out rules and details for setting up a Richard McP. Cabeen Award to recognize faithful exhibitors. The exhibits made at monthly meetings will be the basis for making this "name" award, so members are apprised of it and urged to bring exhibits for the pleasure of others and to become a possible recipient of this worthy award.

A PROMISE?

Well, not quite but it appears very likely that there will be specific information in the next issue of the CHATTER about our 50th anniversary medal. Those attending the May 8 meeting may get a preview. Remember, silver medals will be limited to members of C.C.C.

Howard Eisenberg, who was in Moscow last summer, will speak at the May 8 meeting on "The Coinage of the Soviets." Howard speaks with verve and enthusiasm on his experiences in Russia, and presumably will have Soviet coins to illustrate his talk**
ALSO an auction.

PERSONAL & PETTY PATTEN

Bill Pettit was a contestant on the Saturday evening channel 7 "Let's Face It" program recently. He took the honors the first evening but a faster thinking (or guessing) gal eliminated him a week later. Bill won a polaroid camera. Anyway, he wouldn't have looked good in the fur coat she won.

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CCC Past President Philip More has added another "Past" title, having bowed out of the office of president of Central States Numismatic Society at the recent Detroit convention. Detroit Ben Stocker is the new president, while August Hauske and Dick Peterson (reelected) are the Illinois governors. Howie Eisenberg was a very busy young man at the successful convention and was seen taking photos frequently, presumably for publicity purposes. Other Chicago area members seen at the convention were Jim Budd, the Hewitts, Matt Jackson, Tom Nolan, George Petr (who was an exhibitor, but we failed to learn what award he won), Arlie Slabaugh (who is now in the Philadelphia area), Leonard Stark and the Yeomans.

* * * * *

We heard of no untoward happenings at the convention, the only obvious complaint being the lack of advance publicity and information about it. Let's hope that next year's event in Chicago will be better heralded, with pre-publication of the essentials of the program most desirable and helpful to prospective out of town attendants.

* * * * *

President and Mrs. Grebinger were honored guests at the April 17 annual dinner meeting of the Calumet Numismatic Club, where Jim was the featured speaker. The Smedleys were invited guests also.

* * * * *

A C.C.C. member who "went east" recently, Mike Dolnick, was in the news of the numismatic world recently as the moderator of a panel of speakers at the March 23 numismatic forum in the Smithsonian Institution. Other prominent principals in the successful maiden effort were Dr. and Mrs. Clain-Stefanelli and Miss Eva Adams.

NOT NUMISMATICS, BUT FOR NUMISMATISTS

The following appeared recently as an advertisement of Warner & Swasey, machinery makers since 1880: "13 to 1 the people say they want government expenses cut rather than any tax increase. Yet government increases expenses, hires thousands more civilian employees, adds even more bureaus, and continues to squander millions on such silly things as a study of East African monkeys. And then it says it has to increase taxes.

"3/4ths of the farmers of America want the government to take its hands off farming, save the billions it now squanders on 'farm aid' and let the farmer run his own business. So government increases its farm budget to 6 1/4 billion dollars and adds 1400 employees to the Agricultural Department.

"The people appoint, pay for, support police forces to protect them. Yet government courts go out of their way to obstruct the people's police and pamper their enemies, the criminals.

"What has happened to the government we proudly claimed was 'of the people, by the people, for the people'? Whose country is this, anyway?"

* * * * *

COMING EVENTS

RCDA show (advertisements call it a "convention") scheduled for May 10-12 in the Palmer House in Chicago.

Indiana State Numismatic Assn. annual convention, May 17-19 in Muncie at the Student Center of Ball State University - an ideal site.

Morton Grove C.C. annual show, May 19 at the Leaning Tower YMCA in Niles, near Touhy and Caldwell Aves., just north of Chicago.

Numismatists of Wisconsin annual convention, June 8-9, Racine Motor Inn, downtown Racine. Treasury Dept. billion dollar paper money exhibit.

A.N.A. 1968 convention, Aug. 20-24 in San Diego, Calif. The El Cortez Hotel is not a large one and even the nearby hotels and motels are sure to be full by convention time. Those who even hope to go should reserve rooms at once. See p. 478 in the April issue of The Numismatists.



CHICAGO COIN CLUB *Chatter*

Meets the Second Wednesday, 8 P. M., at the Pick Congress Hotel

Vol. 20 No. 6

593rd Meeting

June 12, 1968

James L. Grebinger, President

James Babka, Vice President

Marty Greene, 2nd Vice President

Mrs. Marjorie Baker, Secretary-Treasurer

Glenn Smedley, CHATTER Editor, 1127 Washington Blvd., Oak Park, Ill. 60302

Governors: A. R. Birkholz, A. F. Hausske, Philip More, J. Thomas Nolan

MAY MEETING NOTES

Let's see now - May 8 was such a long time ago - what did transpire at that meeting? Well, Marjorie's notes and my miserable memory bring to mind our good fortune in having fine guests, including Ray and Betty Lefman of Kansas City, Max M. Schwartz of New York, Jesse Peters of Decatur and William Swoger of nearby Harvey. Oh yes, Bill Pettit introduced 'the lady mostly responsible for my being a numismatist, and for that matter, whatever else I am - my mother.' And while not recorded as a guest, we were happy to have with us Louis Oakman - the man responsible for most of the photos from the Chicago area which find their way into the pages of Coin World.

The Lefmans were in Chicago for a good reason: Ray was manager (hope that's the right title) of the RCDA show at the Palmer House the weekend following our meeting. Max and Jesse were making plans for the PNG show to be held here next fall and to present handsome (and well deserved) certificates of appreciation to the following for their efforts in staging the 1967 PNG show: James and June (his sister, I believe) Budd, Howard Eisenberg, James Grebinger, Marty Green, Philip More, Louis Nagy, Richard Peterson, William Pettit, Charles Prock and Charles Ryant. Can't recall that we heard from Mr. Swoger but hope we see him again.

Oakman spoke briefly about the Chicago Policemen's Benevolent Assn. medal, which he was instrumental in producing and about which our last issue contained information and then sold quite a few to members. It is an attractive 50 mm, silver-plated bronze piece that was made in Italy. Your editor was much interested in seeing a rare book of 1887, titled History of The Chicago Police, which Oakman had with him. I recently wrote an article based on an extract from this book (pub.

in June Numismatic Digest) and, when space permits, will include an abridgment in CHATTER.

We were pleased to accept James I. Lore into membership even though a business trip to Texas prevented him from being present. Other applications received but not yet reported upon are from Philip Budd and June Budd of Fort Madison, Iowa, Bruno Rzepka of Elmhurst and Chicagoan John White.

Vice President Babka spoke on the proposed medal to memorialize the Club's 50th anniversary next year. Arrangements have been made with sculptor Trygve Rovelstad of Elgin to make the models for the obverse and reverse, which he plans to have ready to photograph by the end of July. Among Rovelstad's works familiar to members are the 1936 Elgin commemorative half dollar and the official Illinois centennial medal now being sold.

Both Rovelstad and Medallie Art Company have agreed to special terms for their services which, said Babka, should make the project self supporting if about 100 members subscribe to one each of the silver medals at not more than \$20. It is planned to limit silver medals to members who sub-

Frank Racine, a non-member friend of several members, will speak at the June 12 meeting on "Life Saving Medals." Frank's collection and research is restricted to medals issued by societies (many quite old) along the eastern coast which give awards for the saving of life from the sea. A few have heard this talk and can vouch for Frank's unusually fine presentation of a little known numismatic subject.

scribe in advance, to place the member's Club number on his 2 1/4 inch medal, and to strike specimens in bronze at a price not yet estimated. Subscriptions will be solicited as soon as photos of the models can be sent out, but some members have placed orders already based on their faith in the sculptor and the manufacturer.

William Hoppe read a letter from A.N.A. headquarters concerning the Association's offer of rewards in connection with robberies and thefts of numismatic materials from its members. He stressed that an inventory of the losses should be sent to A.N.A. promptly.

Exhibitors were: Gerda Birkholz, Howard Eisenberg, Jim Grebinger, Lee Hewitt, Philip More, Wm. Pettit and Glenn Smedley. For the first time, there were no losers in the monthly prize drawing. Bernard Marshfield's was the first name drawn and, being present, he will have his 1969 dues remitted

As announced, an auction was held but it couldn't be called exciting. However, there was a bright side - Mrs. Ernest Jonas, who consigned the material, donated the entire proceeds (\$28) to the Club as a token of her appreciation "For the wonderful way in which the Club treated Ernest." Thank you, Mrs. Jonas, but it would have been difficult to be anything but nice to Ernie, and we think a lot of you also.

Yes, it was a long but varied and interesting meeting. Howard Eisenberg graciously volunteered to hold over his talk on "The Coinage of the Soviets" until a later date.

* * * * *

COMING EVENTS

Michigan State Numis. Society spring convention, June 14-16, Oscoda.

Central Illinois Numis. Assn. show July 20-21, St. Nicholas Hotel, Springfield.

A.N.A. 1968 convention, Aug. 20-24 in San Diego, Calif. The El Cortez Hotel, convention headquarters, appears to be sold out, but hotels and motels nearby still have rooms. See p. 478 in the April issue of The Numismatist.

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DECEASED FORMER MEMBER

Maj. Lenox R. Lohr, CCC member 530 for some years, died May 28 of a heart attack suffered while he was attending a function at the Museum of Science and Industry. Not a Club member for several years past, Lenox Lohr had been an avid coin collector at one time, and assembled one of the outstanding collections of U. S. patterns. Several members of the Club had personal contacts with him while arranging National Coin Week exhibits in the Museum in 1947 and 1952. An editorial in the Chicago Daily News on May 31 called him "A soldier, and engineer, an organizer, an executive, an educator, a promoter - he was all of these and more, often combining several roles with rare skill."

Major Lohr organized the Century of Progress exposition during depression years, was president of National Broadcasting Co. for 5 years, headed the Chicago Railroad Fair of 1949 and, most important, managed the Museum of Science and Industry 28 years during which it attained a unique status as a "living" museum and a marvel of practical public education. (Personal note: One of my treasured mementos is permanent pass No. 0915, signed Lenox R. Lohr, president, to the Chicago Railroad Fair. It was issued to me in connection with arranging the gold coin exhibit in the Fair's "Bank of Gold Gulch," sponsored by the Continental Bank.)

NEAT NEWS NOTES

Howard B. Eisenberg was honored recently by election to Phi Beta Kappa at Northwestern University. This national honor college fraternity is nearly 200 years old and membership is restricted to students of superior scholarly standing. Congratulations, Howard!

Two CCC members won second place exhibit awards at the CSNS convention in Detroit in mid-April: James Plath in ancient coins and J. Thomas Nolan in paper money.

Another exhibit award winner in April was George Petr, who took first in paper money and first in medals and tokens at the Valparaiso Coin Club's annual show.

Happiness is: Reporting Marty Green's daughter up and around following a serious illness.

Your editor enjoyed attending the tenth annual convention of Indiana State Numismatic Assn. at Muncie, May 17-19, as an invited exhibit judge. CCC members Kenneth Lindall and Clyde Hand brought him home Sunday afternoon - a big favor and a pleasant ride.



CHICAGO COIN CLUB

Chatter

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Vol. 20 No. 9

596th Meeting

September 11, 1968

James L. Grebinger, President

James Babka, Vice President

Marty Greene, 2nd Vice President

Mrs. Marjorie Baker, Secretary-Treasurer, P. O. Box 435, Chicago, Ill. 60690

Glenn Smedley, CHATTER Editor, 1127 Washington Blvd., Oak Park, Ill. 60302

Governors: A. R. Birkholz, A. F. Hauske, Philip More, J. Thomas Nolan

WASHINGTON ROOM - 3rd FLOOR - NORTH ELEVATED

AUGUST MEETING NOTES

Howard Eisenberg's talk on "The Coinage of the Soviets" was the feature of the meeting, held in a lower level meeting room because of a big convention in the hotel. Howard, not quite his normal self due to his impending marriage, gave some brief historical background of the country popularly referred to as Russia, exhibited a number of Soviet coins and outlined the several changes in the monetary system to date. His unconventional manner of speaking made this talk quite interesting aside from the fact that the 35 members and guests present welcomed the information on a not-well-known coinage subject.*** Other exhibitors included Gerda Birkholz, Congressional medal for the statehood of Hawaii; Harry Flower, proofs of Bureau engravings and the U. S. paper money, bonds and other official documents on which they were used; and William Hoppe, a booklet entitled "The Federal Reserve System - Legalized Thievery." Glenn S. showed several photos of the preliminary stages of our 50th Anniversary meda' and a few of the earlier Club medals.

Al Birkholz outlined plans for issuing a Richard Cabeen Exhibit Award, probably to be in the form of a medal. Long-time member Cabeen has made a generous donation to the Club which will provide for such an award for a number of years. The plan is to award points to exhibits presented at each meeting during a calendar year and, at the year end, to issue a first place medal to the exhibitor accumulating the highest number of points and a second place medal to the runner-up. The President is to appoint three or more judges

for each meeting from among the non-exhibitor members present. Since it is desirable to put the plan into effect promptly, it is intended that a single award be made this year to the exhibitor earning the most points at the last four meetings, September - December.

New members welcomed, some in absentia, were William T. Louth of New York City, Frieda Schnell of Chicago, and David Schector of Bellwood. The latter, by the way, is the new editor of THE PROOF, monthly meeting notice and report of the Oak Park Coin Club. Applications were read from Craig Elles Gibrich of Champaign, Ronald Lovesky, Edward Milas and Joseph M. Schediler, all of Chicago. ****Monthly drawing losers were: Jasper Fiorenza, Edgar Keller, James Lotter, J. Thomas Nolan, Morris Thacker and Donald Urchel. The seventh name drawn was that of Chester Poderski, a faithful attendant whose luck it is to have his 1969 dues remitted.

50th ANNIVERSARY MEDAL - LAST CALL

Your officers are pleased to announce that, as of September 1, advance subscriptions have been received for 87 of these unique art medals in silver. Orders are still coming in so it seems certain that the minimum number of 100 will be received and that preparation of the dies and striking can proceed on schedule. A descriptive

Al. and Gerda Birkholz hope to have an informal program at the September 11 meeting on some historical places in the Williamsburg (Virginia) area which they visited recently. The "hope to have" depends upon slides of photos they took being ready for showing by the meeting date.

sheet and order form was sent to each member last month; those who procrastinated are hereby advised that deadline for receipt of orders is September 18. Some are sure to regret that they missed it when the beautiful and rare pieces are distributed next January - see that you will not be one of them. If you've misplaced the order form, write a letter to Vice President James Babka, 15250 S. Ridgeway, Midlothian, Il. 60445, stating that you want your medal and enclosing your check or money order (payable to Chicago Coin Club Medal) for \$5.00 as a deposit. Jim will record your name as a subscriber and send an order form for you to return in confirmation. Remember, silver medals are for Club members only, only one to a member, and no orders accepted after September 18th. IT'S NOW OR NEVER!

NEWS OF MEMBERS

The unpleasant news comes to us that George F. Petr is confined in Edgewater Hospital, Rm. 708, 5700 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago 60626. Although improving, George is expected to be there for several weeks and, even as you and I, would be happy to receive cards or notes from his Club friends.

September birthday: Mrs. Ruth Green, 940 La Fiesta Way, San Marcos, Calif. 92069, the 10th of the month. We visited with her at the San Diego A.N.A. convention and can report that she doesn't look that (?) old.

C.C.C. members of the Chicago area seen at the San Diego convention: Dave Allen, Kenneth Bressett, James Budd, James and Miriam Grebinger, Clyde and Mrs. Hand, August and Evelyn Hausske, Lee and Virginia Hewitt, Matt Jackson (he and Dave Allen were my good roommates), I. T. and Pearl Kopicki (who had a two-way moving walkway from their motel to the main hotel), Joseph Lessner, Cliff and Mae Lindall, Bernard Marshfield, Ben and Silvia Odesser, William Pettit (had the pleasure of his company on the plane out), Mrs. Judy Sabel, M. Vernon and Marcella Sheldon (he's an A.N.A. Past President), and Richard and Marion Yeoman (probably the best known name in numismatics). Others formerly of this area included the Bebees, The Bolenders, The Dolnicks, William Field, The Ralph Goldstones, Arlie Slabaugh and daughter, and Del. Worthington. If I've failed to record others, it is only because of my poor memory, for which I apologize.

REMINISCENCES

The Chicago Coin Club issued medals on the occasions of its 100th meeting, June 1, 1927 (bronze); 25th anniversary, 1944 (silver with bust of Lincoln); 400th meeting, May 14, 1952 (Mexican peso counterstamped); and 500th meeting, September 14, 1960 (barrel-shaped in gold, silver, bronze and anodized aluminum). Being unable to find a record of the number of each such piece issued, it can be said that finding one today, except the 500th in bronze or aluminum, is quite difficult. Certainly obtaining one of the very limited issue 50th anniversary silver medals will be quite an undertaking in the future.

Perusing the report of a Club meeting 30 years ago (November, 1938) reveals that Norman Shultz of Salt Lake City was a visitor at that meeting. This year Norman was one of three A. N.A. members who received 50-year gold membership medals at the San Diego convention. Back to the C.C.C. meeting, there were 9 exhibits reported, including one by Paul Pennington and one by I. T. Kopicki. M. A. Powills was the exhibit chairman. The application for membership of Richard McP. Cabeen, sponsored by Lee Hewitt was recorded. In a letter regarding the Club's BULLETIN, President Rayson made the statement that "Much of this success is due to Mr. Lee Hewitt, The Editor, who is coming to the front as a publisher of numismatic material." (Except for a few dealer's house organs, the fledgling NUMISMATIC SCRAPBOOK MAGAZINE and THE NUMISMATIST were the only monthly publications being issued for coin collectors at that time. Today there are many, and Lee has recently retired from the field)

In this 30-year old BULLETIN, a page was devoted to a "New Book On Chicago Banks," it being THE GROWTH OF CHICAGO BANKS by F. Cyril James, Professor of Finance in the University of Pennsylvania. Published in 1938, the two volume work covers nearly 1500 pages and is my "bible" on Chicago banks and banking history. Also it gives a bit of the very earliest history of banking in the State of Illinois and, throughout, some related financial history of the country in general. The undertaking was commissioned by the First National Bank of Chicago as a memorial to its 75th anniversary. (I have copy No. 74 of a 300-copy edition prepared especially for the Bank and autographed by the author)

